

Message Text

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46

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SAJ-01 /033 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1272

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 8336

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRN, EAIR, ETRD, UR, US

SUBJECT: SOVIETS TESTING AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM MODELED
ON ARTS-III

USDOC FOR BEWT/DOWNEY

1. MEMBERS OF FAA TEAM IN USSR FOR TALKS WITH SOVIETS ON MICROWAVE LANDING SYSTEMS ADVISED COMMATT JUNE 13 THAT THEY HAD SEEN OPERATING SOVIET-MADE AIR-TRAFFIC-CONTROL SYSTEM AT LENINGRAD AIRPORT WHICH WAS CLEARLY MODELED ON SPERRY-UNIVAC/FF AQRTS-III SYSTEM. SOVIETS ALLOWED FAA EXPERTS TO INSPECT BOTH DISPLAY UNITS AND "BACK-ROOM" COMPUTERS AND OTHER CONTROL UNITS. ACCORDING TO FAA REPS, THEY WERE TOLD THAT SYSTEM HAD BEEN CONSTRUCTED BY LENINGRAD "RADIO INSTITUTE," WAS ONE OF A KIND, AND WAS CURRENTLY ABOUT HALF-WAY THROUGH ONE-YEAR TEST PROGRAM.

2. COMMENT: FAA REPS ALSO REPORTED THAT THEY FOUND MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION OFFICIALS EXTREMELY RELUCTANT TO DISCUSS CURRENT STATE OF PLAY ON ATC CONTRACT. MRS. ANODINA WAS SAID TO BE ILL WHEN FAA GROUP HAD INITIAL MEETINGS AT MINISTRY JUNE 9 AND MADE ONLY BRIEF APPEARANCE WHEN FAA GROUP RETURNED TO MOSCOW FROM LENINGRAD JUNE 12. FAA REPS WERE PUZZLED, AS ARE WE, AT APPARENT CONTRADICTION BETWEEN CURRENT SOVIET NEGOTIATIONS FOR PURCHASE OF WESTERN-MADE ATC SYSTEM AND THEIR SUCCESS IN CONSTRUCTING THEIR OWN SYSTEM, WHICH CLEARLY MODELED ON SPERRY-UNIVAC ARTS-III.

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Message Attributes

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